

## **PLUMBING HANDOUT**

### **HOMEOWNER**

A homeowner may obtain a permit to do plumbing work on property (not containing more than two (2) dwelling units) actually occupied by the worker as a residence (homesteaded). All work must be inspected and installed according to the Minnesota Plumbing Code.

**All other work must comply with the following license requirements:**

### ***Rochester Plumbing Requirements*** **LICENSED PLUMBER REQUIRED**

No person shall engage in the business of installing plumbing or install plumbing in connection with the dealing in and selling of plumbing material and supplies, unless at all times a master plumber, duly licensed by the City of Rochester, is responsible for proper installation of such plumbing and in charge of the plumbing work.

### **LICENSE REQUIRED**

No person shall engage in or work at the business of a master plumber unless licensed to do so by the City of Rochester.

#### ***EXAMPLES OF THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND WHEN INSTALLING PLUMBING:***

- 1) When installing "PVC" plastic waste and vent pipe, purple primer must be used prior to gluing joint.
- 2) Piping must be supported adequately to prevent sagging of pipes, but in no case can hangers be further apart than 32" for plastic pipe, and 6' for copper pipe up to 1 1/4" in size.
- 3) When installing copper pipe, all joints must be cleaned and inside of pipe reamed before joint is made.
- 4) All shower valves installed must be of the anti scald type, or pressure balance for safety.

- continued -

PLUMBING REQUIREMENTS CONTINUED  
PAGE 2

- 5) All new water closets (toilets) must be a 1.6 gal. flush type - must have 30" clear space for water closet to be installed in (15" minimum clearance to any side wall).
- 6) When installing a new water heater, there are several things to check -
  - a. Need new pressure temperature relief.
  - b. Must have source of combustion air in mechanical room.
  - c. Chimneys must be vented properly - may sometimes require a chimney liner.
- 7) Before any piping or work is covered up, call Building Safety Department for plumbing inspection.

*For any additional information or inspection, call Building Safety Department at (507) 281-6133.*

**PURPOSE OF PLUMBING CODE**

To maintain “minimum” standards of certain basic principles of environmental sanitation and safety through properly designed, acceptably installed and adequately maintained plumbing systems.

**WORK REQUIRING PLUMBING PERMITS**

New plumbing systems and parts of existing systems which have been altered, extended, or repaired, replaced, or relocated, inclusive of all fixtures, water supply, drainage, or vent piping.

**WORK NOT REQUIRING PLUMBING PERMITS**

Maintenance work as described below:

(Servicing of plumbing and related equipment or systems. “Servicing of plumbing and related equipment or systems” means:)

- (1) The replacement and repair of
  - (a) toilets seats, tissue/napkin/paper/soap dispensers, aerators and grab bars.
  - (b) clear water portable sump pumps.
  - (c) sump pumps not hard piped to the building drain system.
  - (d) components of non-potable water systems, downstream of approved backflow preventers.
  - (e) water or air cooled air compressors and water cooled vacuum pump components if isolated by approved backflow preventers, and
  - (f) irrigation systems after approved backflow preventers.
- (2) Repairs to dishwashers or similar units if isolated by an approved backflow preventer, which can be made without disrupting the piping system.
- (3) Replacement of faucet washers and packing; flushometer diaphragms; washers, packing, float arm assemblies, tank trip levers, lift wires and tank balls for water closets; and trap washers.

- continued -

## PLUMBING CODE STANDARDS

### PAGE 2

- (4) Cleaning of
  - (a) floor drains, sand traps, and fixture or equipment traps.
  - (b) drains, that does not require fixture removal, and
  - (c) sediment from water heaters.
- (5) Inspection and lubrication of
  - (a) sump pumps.
  - (b) domestic water pumps.
  - (c) water or air cooled air compressors and water cooled vacuum pump, and
  - (d) dishwashers or similar washing devices.
- (6) Adjusting controls of
  - (a) distilled water systems.
  - (b) domestic water pumps, and
  - (c) deionized/reverse osmosis water systems.
- (7) Adjusting
  - (a) dishwashers or similar washing devices, and
  - (b) temperature for water heaters.
- (8) Routine filter media/membrane changes.
- (9) Testing and regeneration of deionized/reverse osmosis water systems.
- (10) Testing of water or air cooled air compressors and water cooled vacuum pumps.
- (11) Installation of irrigation systems after approved backflow preventers.
- (12) Shutdown, start-up and maintenance of irrigation systems, exclusive of backflow preventer maintenance.
- (13) Monitoring water or air cooled air compressors and water cooled vacuum pumps.